

King's Children.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE.

MARY DIETZ.

To the brethren and sisters greeting :—
In our weakness we will endeavor to write a few thoughts upon the subject assigned to us, "Our Young People's Literature." How can we best interest the church in general in the department of work. The church in general—this would include both old and young—requiring as a whole a common interest.

As things are not always as they should be we may not be able to tell how to best interest all in a literature for young people, but will mention a few things which should be the means of helping draw—if prayerfully considered, forth a common interest. Our literature will become more beneficial for all by *uniting* our interests: "In union there is strength, but everything depends on *what* you *unite*." Husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, sons and daughters, all who are united by the dearest ties of earth, namely, the home and the church, if we walk honestly before the Lord in remaining true to our church—or our beloved Zion—must we not become interested in every means for advancing the cause of Christ, as a duty we owe him? We must be interested in the youth if we are interested in the future of the church. Do we realize that the thoughts which the young people glean through reading will go toward making up *their* characters as well as those of *future generations*?

The K. C. paper has been giving us pure mind food—may it continue thus. May our young people's literature *ever* teach pure doctrine, and fight against every sin, including the use of intoxicating drinks and the social evil. Our paper should keep us informed as to what other Christian Societies are doing in the name of Christ. We should know these things, and it will be best for our own literature to give this information, besides *our own work* which should cause others to become interested in the K. C. Society. Others ought to know of us, and what we are doing, just as much as we need to know of them and their work. Let us ask our Saviour and King to help us prove to other Societies (and the world) by our own literature, and our lives, that Christ did not give one precept but that is of value in Christian character building. The "Golden Rule," a popular Endeavor paper, does not appear to know of the existence of the Brethren church, nor of the K. C. Society, yet we glean from its columns the following:

"The church that does not stand for

something distinctive and characteristic should close up. Also that the world needs men who believe something. Men who know *what* and *why* they believe.

The need of the hour—

Men of power.

Men, right in God's sight.

Men, clothed with God's might."

May the Brethren give the young people a literature that will inspire them with noble thoughts, and into living such lives that will help fill the world's great need. Let us all become interested in this work as a duty we owe to God, and because we love him and the souls of mankind.

Oh! will we work while it is day,

Or will we linger along the way?

Will we come before our Heavenly King,

Without the sheaves that were ours to bring?

If we will not improve our opportunities and talents, and help along in this great work financially, as well as with our prayers, God will remove our influence from us and raise up another church, giving to *them* the power to do *all* that he requires of them. Jesus shall reign.

LITERATURE.

MRS. ORVILLE HIMEBAUGH.

That King's Children literature is an important factor and productive of beneficial results is very apparent; this becomes self-evident when we note its large and increasing circulation and the deep appreciation by each and all of its readers. Much good can be accomplished by the diffusion of pure literature, but the paths are so many, and so inviting, the possibilities so wide and so various, that it is necessary that the course be chosen with great care, keeping always in view the purpose of some particular end, and the broadening and deepening of the foundation of character, and thus the culture of nobility of purpose. For through this are offered opportunities for impressing some valuable lessons in life. The ultimate purpose should be, that the young mind may be roused to indignation against injustice and oppression, to scorn of hypocrisy and all falsehood, the love of virtue, honor, courage, all that constitutes every day heroism, to that tender consideration of the rights and feelings of others which is the soul of true courtesy.

The study of literature is a cure for narrowness of thought in a broad, catholic yet discriminating spirit. The high ideal set before the reader is to aid in clear thinking, in the broadening of the intellectual horizon, in the attainment of true, pure character, consecrated to spiritual freedom, and nobility of life. K. C. literature may also be beneficial in that we

can impress the youthful mind with a sense of God's parental love and presence, so as to arouse in them sentiments of love and reference for their Creator. To show God's rule in relation to men, biographies of various Bible characters are very hopeful. For instance, in Abraham we see the necessity of implicit faith; in Jacob, the ruling of a nation; and in Job, the reward of patience.

From these, also excellent moral lessons may be adduced. God's word alone forms the man anew, elevates him to a higher plane of existence, creates new senses of enjoyment, awakens new desires, new hopes, laudible ambitions, high aspirations, and carries the whole soul to nobler and sublimer life; and to enable him to battle successfully with the obstacles of life.

Purer than mountain dew, whiter than sky born flakes is the atmosphere of pure literature. So may we do all we can for the dissemination of God's word, and finally when we shall have reached the height and goal of our profession, we can look down through the screen of time and behold something wrought through the literature diffused by the K. C. upon the altar of public good.

Dunlaps, Ind., Oct. 22, '95.

SOME THINGS I CANNOT UNDERSTAND.

ELLEN GNAGEY.

I cannot understand why church members are not all Christians, why they profess to be Christians and live so far away from Christ. I cannot understand why church members do not dig down into God's word, and get that peace, rest, comfort, and that blessed assurance of the home beyond. I cannot understand why people will spend every moment of their lives trying to make money to lavish it upon themselves, and never have any to spare for Christ's cause, when Christ himself said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." Or why one brother will try to cheat the other out of a little money or a good name, when we are to be careful for each other, and esteem others above ourselves, why some people (and church members too) can spend from three to five hours at some tom foolery of a party or entertainment and enjoy it, when they get *oh, so tired* to spend one hour in prayer-meeting. I cannot understand what some would want in heaven. I cannot understand why church members will vote for saloons, when they know it will be the cause of the ruin of some mother's son, and will make fathers brutes, wives widows, children homeless, and homes perfect *hells*.